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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q67202

Hajime ASHIHARA

Appln. No.: 09/986,554

Group Art Unit: 2161

Confirmation No.: 5906

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 09, 2001

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ORDERING SALES ITEMS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-506290-A, published May 23, 2000.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-222463-A, published August 11, 2000.
3. *Think Tank Perspective: New Business Opportunities, Electronic Retailing Telecommunications Integrated Research, The Japan Industrial Journal, June 18, 1997, page 21.*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/986,554

4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2002-540486-A,  
published November 26, 2002.

5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H11-184910-A,  
published July 9, 1999.

6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H10-320494-A,  
published December 4, 1998.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated June 15, 2004 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

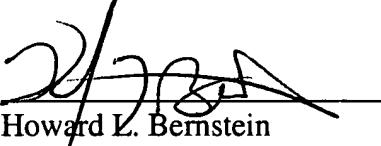
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/986,554

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 15, 2004

<p>Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p> <p><i>P.E. 15 2004</i></p>				<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p>	
				Application Number	09/986,554
				Confirmation Number	5906
				Filing Date	November 09, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hajime ASHIHARA
				Art Unit	2161
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
Q67202					

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

NON-PATENT INFORMATION DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Think Tank Perspective: New Business Opportunities, Electronic Retailing Telecommunications Integrated Research, The Japan Industrial Journal, June 18, 1997, page 21.	

Examiner Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.